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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY

CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION REGARDING INDIAN POPULAR NAMES

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY

CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION REGARDING INDIAN POPULAR NAMES

This bureau is in receipt of numerous requests for Indian names suitable for use by Camp Fire Girls and as camp names, and often for the translation into one or more of the many Indian languages of English expressions involving concepts wholly foreign to the Indian mode of thought. It is impossible for the bureau to devote the time and to meet the expense of special research incident to questions of this kind.

Appended is a selection of simplified Indian names designed to meet most of the requests received. The pronunciation of these names is as follows: *a* as in father; *â* as in law; *e* as *a* in hate; *i* as in machine; *ai* as in aisle; *u* as in rule. Short vowels are indicated in the customary manner (ă, ĕ, ĭ, ŏ, ŭ); ñ is nasalized, as in drink. The consonants are as in English.

PERSONAL NAMES

DAKOTA (SIOUX)

Chúmani.....Dewdrops.
Chañtéyukañ....Benevolent.
Chápa.....Beaver.
Chañtésuta.....To be firm of heart.
Akikta.....One who works with determination.
Machá.....The aurora.
Kimímela.....The butterfly.
Tañkáku.....Her younger sister.
Wózhupiwi.....The planting moon (May).
Wóksapiwi.....The harvest moon (August).
Wíshtecha.....Modest.
Wakíchoñze....A leader.
Wañyécha.....Firefly.
Wicháka.....To be true.
Wa.....Snow.
Zĭtkála.....Little bird.
Zóñta.....Trustworthy.
Wakápa.....To excel.
Wápika.....Skillful.
Wakíñyela.....Dove.
Wóape.....Hope.
Wówashi.....A worker.
Mahpíyato.....Blue cloud.

OMAHA

Mítena.....The coming moon.
Mígina.....Fairy woman.
Míhewi.....Sun woman.
Táini.....The coming new moon.
Tadéwi.....Wind woman.
Táigi.....The returning new woman.

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OSAGE

Íniabi.....Refers to the sun, on which all life depends.
Mísae.....The white sun.
Níabi.....Fawn ("One that is spared by the hunter").
Mína.....Elder sister.
Wíhe.....Younger sister.

COOS

Wáwa.....Little girl.
Oóyu.....Rainbow.
Yiméyam.....Bright.
Álkas.....She is afraid.
Nehewítsin.....Pretty.
Mítsis.....Wise.
Yoómee.....Star.
Aléshanee.....She plays all the time.
Towáyam.....Beloved by all, lovable.
Heeneékis.....Equal to any.
Tkális.....Sun.
Háyoohaína.....She is very active.

BLACKFOOT

Kokatosi.....Star.
Nituna.....My daughter.
Aponi.....Butterfly.
Kiniks.....Rosebud.

DELAWARE

Cholena.....Bird.
Chimalus.....Bluebird.
Cholentit.....Little bird.
Zelozelos.....Cricket.
Woatawes.....Flower.
Minal.....Fruit.

CHEYENNE

Ístas.....Snow.
Otókson.....Little stars.
Viho.....Chief.
Woiviho.....Cloud chief.
Ioviano.....Yellow hawk.
Nakashgonam...My child.
Hoimani.....Lawmaker.
Ihikona.....Industrious worker.

CHEROKEE

Ayŭñli.....First in the dance, dance leader.
Kamáma.....Butterfly.
Nákwisi.....Star.
Adsíla.....Blossom.
Ayíta.....Worker.
Gatáyahi.....Jealous one.
Galílahi.....Amiable, gentle, attractive.
Gatítla.....They run to her.
Gahistíski.....Peacemaker.
Sinásta.....Expert.
Salali.....Squirrel.
Salâ'linita.....Young squirrel.
Awinita.....Young deer.
Tâyanita.....Young beaver.
Yâna.....Bear.
Inâli.....Black fox.
Nuñdayeli.....Midday sun.
Tsuñgani.....Excels all others.

SENECA

Deweñ'doñs.....It swings.
Gaoñya'was.....It shakes the sky.
Gaji'jens.....Its flowers fall.
Gahadi'yas.....It crosses the forest.
Ganoñwi'yas....It crosses the swamp.
Saiyen'gu.....Lost again in mist.
Yaneñowi.....She guards the corn.
Goñwasgoñ'gwen.She took one from the water.
Ogoñwage'soñ....Along the hillside.
Awe'ogon.....Nothing but flowers.
Awei'noñ.....Moving flowers.
Aweñde'a.....Early day.
Gaguyewak'hon..It awakens them.
Gaha'dihse.....It drags the forest.
Ganonkwénon....She is alert.

CHIPPEWA (OJIBWA)

Swangideed.....Brave, courageous.
Memengwa.....Butterfly.
Chamaniked.....Canoe maker.
Ogima.....Chief.
Ogimâwiwin.....Chieftainship.
Nâmid.....Dancer.
Odânisima.....Daughter.
Bidâban.....It begins to dawn.
Enâbandang.....Dreamer.
Migisi.....Eagle.
Wâbanang.....Eastern star (Morning star).
Inawendiwin....Friendship.
Nitagewinini....Good hunter.
Makisinikewinini.Moccasin maker.
Wâwinges.....Skillful.
Wâbaningosi.....Snowbird.
Anâng.....Star.
Songitehe.....Strong-hearted.

CAMP NAMES

CHEROKEE

Adáhi.....In the woods; forest place.
Taláhi.....In the oaks; oak forest.
Natsíhi.....In the pines.
Tsiskwáhi.....Bird place.
Amaiyúlti.....Water side; near the water.
Tahígwa.....At peace.
Salúyi.....In the thicket.
Inagéi.....In the wilderness.
Watuhíyi.....Beautiful place.
Gatúsi.....In the mountain.
Ahalúna.....Lookout place.
Unalíyi.....Place of friends.
Unilawĭsti.....Council place.
Gatíyi.....Town house (tribal dance and council house).
Akwénasa.....My home.
Amadáhi.....Forest water.
Ayelíyu adáhi.....In the heart (middle) of the woods.
Uñtalúlti.....On the bank of the lake.
Elitséhi.....Green meadow; verdant fields.
Ustanáli.....Rock ledge.
N ita udéliga.....Sunset.
Y áhi.....Bear place.
W hilíyi.....Eagle place.
Kŭltsâ'te uñtalúlti.....House by the lake.
Ültsâ'te adáhi.....House in the woods.

IROQUOIS

Wáskwaha.....
Kanósera.....} Camp, temporary shelter.
Kahágon.....In the forest.
Otáhnagon.....In the pine woods.

CHIPPEWA

Chickagami.....By the lake.
Wasábinang.....Outlook, at the place of looking.
Nisátin.....At the foot of the mountain.
Minítik.....Island, one covered with trees.

Wakitátina	On the hilltop.
Anokiwáki	Hunting-ground.
Pikwátina	Hill or mountain.
Anwébewin	Rest, quietness.
Gabĕshiwin, nibewin	Camp.
Ningabĕsh	I camp.
Ogimawigamig	In the chief's lodge.
Nawakwa	In the middle of the forest.
Chigakwa	Near the forest.
Wigiwam	Lodge.
Wanagekogamig	Lodge of cedar-bark.
Wigwasiwigamig	Lodge of birch-bark.
Wakaigan	Log house.
Manakiki	Maple forest.
Ininatig	Maple tree.
Miskwawak	Red cedar.
Mishkwawakokang	In a place where there are red cedars.
Agaming	On the shore.
Mitigwaki	Woods (forest).
Mitigwaking	In the woods.
Nopiming	In a forest.

MISCELLANEOUS CAMP AND CLUB NAMES

Language.	Name.	Meaning.
Arikara	Ákanu	Lodge.
Crow	Ashé	Lodge.
Arapaho	Awi	Lodge.
	Naiset	Sunset.
Mohawk	Joníto otára	Beaver club or society.
	Otyókwa	A group or body of persons forming a single fellowship.
Miami	Assándawi	Place of sunshine.
	Tapawíngo	Place of joy.
Huron	Katinónkwat	Heart's desire.
Chippewa	Amíkwa-odódem	Beaver club or society.
Cheyenne	Ninovan	Our home.

The bureau is also in constant receipt of requests for titles of books on Indian folk-tales and myths. To meet this demand, the following list of a few of the published writings on the subject is given:

BOOKS ON FOLK-LORE, MYTHS, AND LEGENDS

Canfield, W. W. — Legends of the Iroquois. New York, A. Wessels Co., 1902.

Chapman, J. W. — Tenia Texts and Tales from Anvik, Alaska, with Vocabulary by P. E. Goddard. Leyden, Holland, E. J. Brill, 1914. (Publications of the American Ethnological Society of New York, Vol. 6.)

Chicago Folk-Lore Society. — The Folk-Lorist, Vol. I, No. 1, Chicago, the Chicago Folk-Lore Society, 1892.

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Cushing, F. H. — Outlines of Zuñi Creation Myths. Washington, 1896. (Thirteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology.)

Zuñi Folk Tales. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1901.

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Curtis, E. S.....The North American Indian. New York, 1907–1915. (The 10 volumes of this work thus far published may be consulted in the more important libraries.)
Dixon, R. B.....Maidu Texts. Leyden, Holland, E. J. Brill, 1912. (Publications of the American Ethnological Society of New York, Vol 4.)
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Judd, M. C.....Wigwam Stories. Boston, Ginn & Co., 1901.
Judson, K. B.....Myths and Legends of California and the Old Southwest. Chicago, A. C. McClurg & Co., 1912.
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Myths and Legends of Alaska. Chicago, A. C. McClurg & Co., 1911.
Myths and Legends of the Mississippi Valley and the Great Lakes. Chicago, A. C. McClurg & Co., 1914.
Leland, C. G.....Algonquin Legends of New England. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1884.
Leland, C. G., and Prince, J. D. Kuléskap the Master. New York, Funk & Wagnalls Co., 1902.
Lloyd, W. J.....Aw-aw-tam Indian Nights. Westfield, N. J., The Lloyd Group, 1911.
Lummis, C. F.....Man who Married the Moon. New York, The Century Co. [1902].
New Mexico David. New York, C. Scribner's Sons, 1891.
Matthews, W.....Navaho Legends. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1897. (Memoirs of the American Folk-Lore Society, Vol. 5.)
Merriam, C. Hart....Dawn of the World. Myths and Weird Tales told by the Mewan Indians of California. Cleveland, A. C. Clark Co., 1910.
Mooney, J.....Myths of the Cherokee. Washington, 1902. (Nineteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology.)
North American Indian Fairy Tales. London, Gibbings & Co., 1905.
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Simms, S. C.....Traditions of the Crow. Chicago, 1903. (Field Museum of Natural History, Anthropological Series, Vol. 2, No. 6.)
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Young, E. R.....Algonquin Indian Tales. New York, Eaton & Mains, 1903.
Zitkla-Să.....Old Indian Legends. Boston, Ginn & Co., 1904.
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